

326 COMMENTARY ON MACAULAY'S
HISTORY

But she, more guilty, numerous wains did
drive,
To crush her father and her king alive ;
And In remembrance of his hastened fall,
Resolved to institute a weekly ball.
The jolly glutton grew in bulk and chin,
Feasted on rapine and enjoyed her sin ;
With luxury she did weak reason force,
Debauched good-nature, and cram'd down
remorse ;
Yet when she drank cold tea in liberal sups,
The sobbing dame was maudling in her
cups.
But Brutal Tarquin never did relent,
Too hard to melt, too wicked to repent ;
Cruel in deeds, more merciless in will,
And blest with natural delight in ill.¹

More honourable Jacobites judged Mary
with greater
fairness. Ailesbury furnishes a conspicuous
example of her
generosity to him, a political opponent.
When he was
bailed he said he sent his wife to the Countess
of Derby to
beg her to thank Mary and to express his
regrets that he
could not pay his duty in person. The Queen
answered :
' Tell my Lady of Ailesbury that I love to do
good to all
persons as far as I can, but more especially to
her husband
and his family, whom I knew so well in my
youngest years/
The Queen sent for him and asked him to play
at basset
(though he excused himself), and enquired
about his family.
Her generosity gained her a strenuous
defender. On one
occasion after her death he had an argument
with Nottingham
ham about her character. When the former
Tory minister
suggested she had behaved badly towards her
father, Ailes-
bury ' warmly replied, " My Lord, I esteemed

her as a
princess that had no fault. . . . She as a good
wife (whether
she had suitable returns I question much)
submitted patiently,
ly, but had her anxieties of mind continually
on her . . .

¹ Macaulay seems to refer to a similar
satire (III, 1418 [xi]).